

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2006, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, claim 14 has been amended to remove a redundancy. Claim 14 was not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7-8 and 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,025,837 (Matthews III) view of U.S. Patent No. 5,987,509 (Portuesi). Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Matthews, III in view of Portuesi and U.S. Patent No. 5,635,989 (Rothmuller). Further, claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Matthews III in view of Portuesi and U.S. Patent No. 6,367,080 (Enomoto). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 11-16

are allowable over Matthews III, Portuesi, Rothmuller and Enomoto for at least the following reasons.

Matthews III is directed to an electronic program guide (EPG) with hyperlinks to target resources. When a viewer activates a hyperlink within the EPG, a user interface unit launches a browser to activate the target resource specified in the hyperlink, such as hyperlinks 58 shown in FIG 2.

As correctly noted by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, Matthews III does not teach or suggest "allowing access to the multimedia material in response to a signal from a broadcaster of the scheduled material". Portuesi is cited in an attempt to remedy this deficiency in Matthews III.

Portuesi is directed to a system for displaying an active uniform network resource locator (URL) during playback of a media file. As recited on column 5, lines 32-34:

associated URL track 20 provides information about URLs to display and make active during certain periods of time with respect to images 24 in image track 18. (Emphasis added)

It is respectfully submitted that the Matthews III, Portuesi, and combination thereof, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited

in independent claim 12 which, amongst other patentable features, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

causing the multimedia material to be cached with locks; and
allowing access to the multimedia material in response to a signal from a broadcaster of the scheduled material that unlocks at least one of the locks.

There is simply no teaching or suggestion in Matthews III, Portuesi, alone or in combination, of caching material with locks, let alone allowing access to the material in response to a signal from the material broadcaster that unlocks one of the locks, as recited in independent claims 1 and 12. Rather, Portuesi merely teaches to display and activate a URL during certain periods. Rothmuller and Enomoto are cited to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Matthews III and Portuesi.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 12 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-9, 11 and 13-16 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 12.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded. And in particular, no Official Notices are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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